

§ 310.23 How will EPA rank approved requests?

(a) If necessary, EPA will rank approved reimbursement requests according to the financial burden the response costs impose on the local governments. We will estimate your financial burden by calculating the ratio of your allowable response costs to your annual per capita income adjusted for population. We will make adjustments for population so that a large city with a low per capita income will not necessarily receive a higher rank than a small town with a slightly higher per capita income. We will also consider other relevant financial information you may supply.

(b) We will use the per capita income and population statistics published by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, in Current Population Reports, Local Population Estimates, Series P-26, "1988 Population and 1987 Per Capita Income Estimates for Counties and Incorporated Places," Vols. 88-S-SC, 88-ENC-SC, 88-NE-SC, 88-W-SC, 88-WNC-SC, March 1990. The Director of the Federal Register has approved this incorporation by reference in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR Part 51. Copies are available from the Bureau of the Census, Office of Public Affairs, Department of Commerce, Constitution Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20230 (1-202-763-4040). You may review a copy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460 or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html.

(c) Larger ratios receive a higher rank. We will reimburse requests with the highest ranks first. Once we rank your request, we will either:

- (1) Reimburse the request; or
- (2) Hold the request for reconsideration once additional funding is available.

(d) The EPA reimbursement official will give you a written decision on

whether the request will be reimbursed or held for future reconsideration.

[63 FR 8286, Feb. 18, 1998, as amended at 69 FR 18803, Apr. 9, 2004]

§ 310.24 What happens if I provide incorrect or false information?

(a) You must not knowingly or recklessly make any statement or provide any information in your reimbursement application that is false, misleading, misrepresented, or misstated. If you do provide incorrect or false information, and EPA relies on that information in making a reimbursement decision, we may deny your application and withdraw or recover the full amount of your award. In such a case, we would give you written notice of our intentions.

(b) If you, as a reimbursement applicant or someone providing information to the applicant, knowingly give any false statement or claim as part of any application for reimbursement under section 123 of CERCLA, you may be subject to criminal, civil, or administrative liability under the False Statement Act (Pub. L. 97-398, 18 U.S.C. 1001) the False Claims Act (Pub. L. 99-562, 31 U.S.C. 3729), and the Program Fraud and Civil Remedies Act (Pub. L. 99-509, 31 U.S.C. 3801).

APPENDIX I TO PART 310—FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(1) Can I be reimbursed for hazmat team salaries?

Generally, no; only unbudgeted overtime and/or extra time can be considered for reimbursement. (§310.11(b)(2))

(2) Will I be reimbursed for the cost of a destroyed fire truck?

Up to \$25,000 of the cost of a lost fire truck can be considered an allowable cost and therefore, reimbursable. However, if the local government has insurance covering such losses, then we would not reimburse you for a destroyed fire truck. (§§310.11(b)(4) and 310.14)

(3) If I have a release in an elementary school, can the school district apply for reimbursement?

No, for purposes of the regulation in this part, a school district is considered a special purpose district of local government and therefore not eligible for reimbursement. The county or city where the incident happened may apply for reimbursement on behalf of the school district. (§§310.03(e) and 310.05)

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(4) Why are incidents that involve a release of petroleum not eligible?

Because this program is authorized under CERCLA, and petroleum is excluded under CERCLA, we can't reimburse you for response to releases involving only petroleum. If, however, some hazardous substances are also involved, your incident may be reimbursed. (§310.03(f))

(5) Can I be reimbursed for laying water lines to a community whose drinking water is affected by a release?

No, laying water lines doesn't fall within the definition of temporary emergency measures. Providing bottled water on a temporary emergency basis is reimbursable. (§310.10(a))

(6) What if EPA gets too many applications in one year?

In the beginning of the program, there was a statutory limitation on the amount of the Superfund that could be used for reimbursements. That limitation was approximately \$1,000,000. The limitation has expired, and EPA has only reimbursed slightly over \$1,000,000 in ten years. There has not been a year where we received too many applications.

(7) If I incur significant costs trying to recover from the PRP, can I be reimbursed by EPA for those costs?

No, legal expenses are not allowable costs. (§310.12(b)(7)).

(8) Can I add attachments to the Application Form?

Yes, attach any additional information that you feel is necessary. EPA will review all the information that you send.

(9) Do I have to notify EPA before I send an application in, or before I take a response action?

No, you aren't required to notify EPA in either case. We do suggest that you call the National Response Center to report the hazardous substance release, or if you use other response reporting channels, use them. If you need some help before submitting your application, we do suggest you call the LGR Help line (800-431-9209).

(10) If two incidents happen in my town, within hours of each other, do I have to submit two separate applications?

You aren't required to submit separate applications in this case, but if your total response costs are more than \$25,000, it may be in your interest to submit separate applications for each single response. (§310.9)

APPENDIX II TO PART 310—EPA REGIONS AND NRC TELEPHONE LINES

National Response Center	(800) 424-8802
EPA Regional Phone Numbers:	
Region I (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT)	(617) 723-8928
Region II (NJ, NY, PR, VI)	(800) 424-8802
Region III (PA, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV)	(215) 814-3255
Region IV (NC, SC, TN, MS, AL, GA, FL, KY)	(404) 562-8700
Region V (OH, IN, IL, WI, MN, MI) ..	(312) 353-2318
Region VI (AR, LA, TX, OK, NM)	(866) 372-7745
Region VII (IA, MO, KS, NE)	(913) 281-0991
Region VIII (CO, UT, WY, MT, ND, SD)	(303) 293-1788
Region IX (AZ, CA, NV, AS, HI, GU, TT)	(800) 300-2193
Region X (ID, OR, WA, AK)	(206) 553-1263

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